

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CU-04 ABF-01 AID-20 IGA-02 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 USIA-12 HEW-08 H-02 L-03 RSR-01

SS-15 NSC-10 /108 W

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R 051218Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8665

INFO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MONROVIA 3666

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SCUL, EAID, LI

SUBJECT: PORT OF MONROVIA LOAN; CULTURAL FOUNDATION

1. IN SESSION WITH LIBERIAN MINISTERS JULY 4 ASST. SECTY NEWSOM EXPRESSED WILLINGNESS U.S. TO DISCUSS PORT OF MONROVIA LOAN QUESTION IN RESPONSE GOL NOTE OF JUNE 28. HE EXPLAINED U.S. ALSO HAD INTEREST IN EXAMINING PROBLEM SINCE REQUIREMENT OF MATCHING FUNDS FROM CU BUDGET CREATED IMBALANCE BETWEEN AFRICAN PROGRAMS. NEWSOM EXPLAINED LIBERIAN/U.S. EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION PROGRAM WAS ORGANIZED TO BENEFIT LIBERIA IN SPIRIT OF POST-WAR FULBRIGHT PROGRAM. ANY CHANGE WOULD PROBABLY REQUIRE CHANGE IN AGREEMENT AND AT LEAST CONGRESSIONAL CONSULTATION. LIBERIANS ALSO SHOULD KEEP IN MIND THAT FUNDS COME FROM CU BUDGET AND ARE GOVERNED BY CU AUTHORIZATION AND POLICIES. ANY OFFSETS THROUGH AID FUNDS WOULD LIKELY BE PART OF NORMAL PROGRAM AND NOT ADDITIONAL. FURTHER, CONGRESS WOULD BE RELUCTANT AGREE OFFSET FUNDING FROM AID BUDGET OVER LONG TERM.

2. IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION LIBERIANS RAISED POSSIBILITIES FORGIVENESS OF LOAN AND USE OF FUNDS: IN RURAL PROJECTS THAT "BENEFIT PEOPLE"; FOR NON-AMERICANS "WHO ARE CHEAPER"; AND  
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FOR POSSIBLE REGIONAL PROJECTS. DIFFICULTIES OF EACH WERE

EXPLAINED TOGETHER WITH BENEFITS FROM PRESENT PROGRAMS --  
OF WHICH FEW LIBERIANS PRESENT WERE KNOWLEDGEABLE.

3. FINALLY NEWSOM SUGGESTED LIBERIANS -- WHO HAD OBVIOUSLY  
NOT DONE SO -- THINK THROUGH CHANGES THEY MIGHT WISH  
PROPOSE, AFTER WHICH DISCUSSIONS COULD TAKE PLACE WASHINGTON  
OR MONROVIA. LIBERIANS AGREED TO CONSIDER AND MAKE  
SUGGESTIONS. SOME POSSIBILITIES SUCH AS UNIVERSITY CONTRACT,  
ESTABLISHMENT CENTER FOR U.S. STUDIES EXAMINED WITHOUT  
COMMITMENT.

4. COMMENT: LIBERIANS MAY POSSIBLY COME FORWARD WITH  
SUGGESTIONS, BUT WE SHOULD NOT HOLD OUR BREATH. FOREIGN  
OFFICE NOTE WAS UNDOUBTEDLY STEVE TOLBERT INITIATIVE  
TAKEN WITHOUT FULL AWARENESS DETAILS PROBLEM OR ANY CLEAR  
IDEA OF ALTERNATIVES.  
MANFULL

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 JUL 1973  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**TAGS:** SCUL, EAID, LI  
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